February 28, 2019

Esteemed members of Education Committee,

I am deeply troubled by Bill 7150 which will shift a portion of state pension liability for teachers down to municipalities. By forcing towns to pay these annual contributions will result in gaps in their budgets, resulting in increased property taxes. Connecticut already has the second highest property taxes in the nation. We cannot afford higher taxes. In addition, our local school districts negotiate teachers' salaries, but we do not negotiate the terms of their pensions. Asking the towns to pay for the cost of something in which they have no say is not appropriate. The towns most impacted by the proposed bill (those paying higher salaries) already contribute disproportionately to the state revenues while receiving little back in return.

I implore you to oppose SB 7150.

Respectfully,

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